



# **X-RAY MICROSCOPY BY PHASE- RETRIEVAL METHODS AT THE ADVANCED LIGHT SOURCE**

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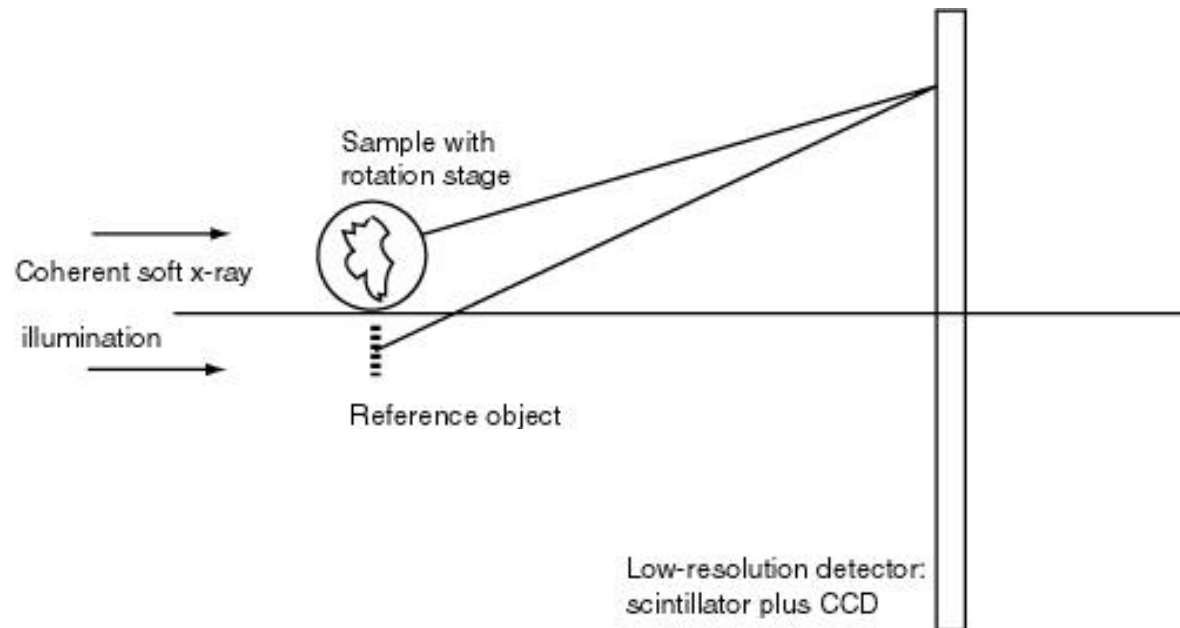
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# 3-D DIFFRACTIVE IMAGING: MY STARTING POINT



- This is Fourier-transform holography with a complicated reference object
- Reference object could be known by independent measurement which would allow recovery of an image of the sample by holography
- Even if it were not known, the whole (double) object can be recovered by phase-retrieval algorithms which work particularly well for double objects - thereafter the reference object would be known
- Thus we have, in principle, a pathway to 3-D tomography if the reference object is kept fixed and the sample is rotated - imaginable but hard to do

# IMAGING BY DIFFRACTION FROM A SINGLE OBJECT



- Experiment is pure diffraction by a single object (i. e. no holographic reference object)
- Original idea by Sayre 1980
- First realization - Miao, Charalambous, Kirz, Sayre 1999
- Depends on the power of the phasing algorithms developed by Fienup, Fiddy et al in the 1980's and now widely used in science and technology
- Although Miao et al have been very successful, surprisingly few experiments by other groups in *microscopy* of any sort have been done
- We have made a start with experiments using visible-light and electron microscopes and have produced successful reconstructions in both cases
- We learned from these experiments and from the literature that reconstructing a general complex object of unknown support (the most interesting type) in 2-D is much harder than reconstructing a real object
- We believe that this does not matter since one can either (a) use HXR where objects tend to be real or (b) move to 3-D which we believe to be easier

# OVER- AND UNDER-DETERMINED PHASE PROBLEMS

R. Millane 1990, 1996, Sayre 1952

ITEM	VALUE
Width of object function (f)	a
Nyquist interval for Fourier amplitude (F)	1/a
Width of autocorrelation of f	2a
Nyquist interval for Fourier intensity $ F ^2$	1/2a
Bragg interval	1/a

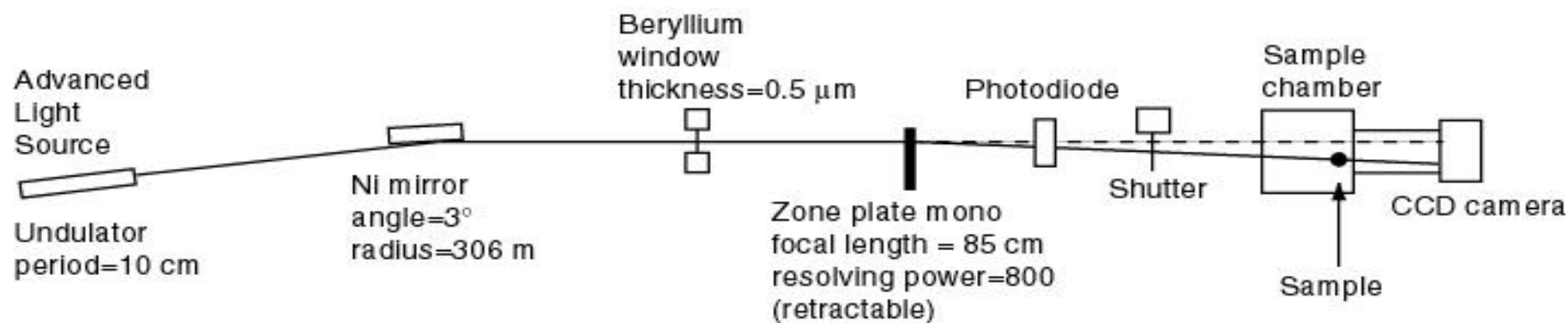
- The Nyquist density of samples is twice as high for  $|F|^2$  as it is for F
- Bragg sampling of  $|F|^2$  (using reciprocal lattice points) is a factor two undersampled according to Nyquist, Shannon, Kotel'nikov etc
- The correct (Nyquist) sampling rate for  $|F|^2$  is two times oversampled for F - this leads to blank spaces around the object upon passing from F to f (the inverse of Fourier interpolation)

# Dims	Crystallography		Optics	
	Unique?	Over-determined?	Unique?	Over-determined?
1			No	Under
2			Maybe	Not either
3	No	Under by 4	Yes	Over by 2

## Conclusion:

Phase retrieval should be easier in 3-D than 2-D - nevertheless we think we should practice on 2-D first before progressing to 3-D

# ALS BEAM LINE 9.0.1 COHERENT OPTICS

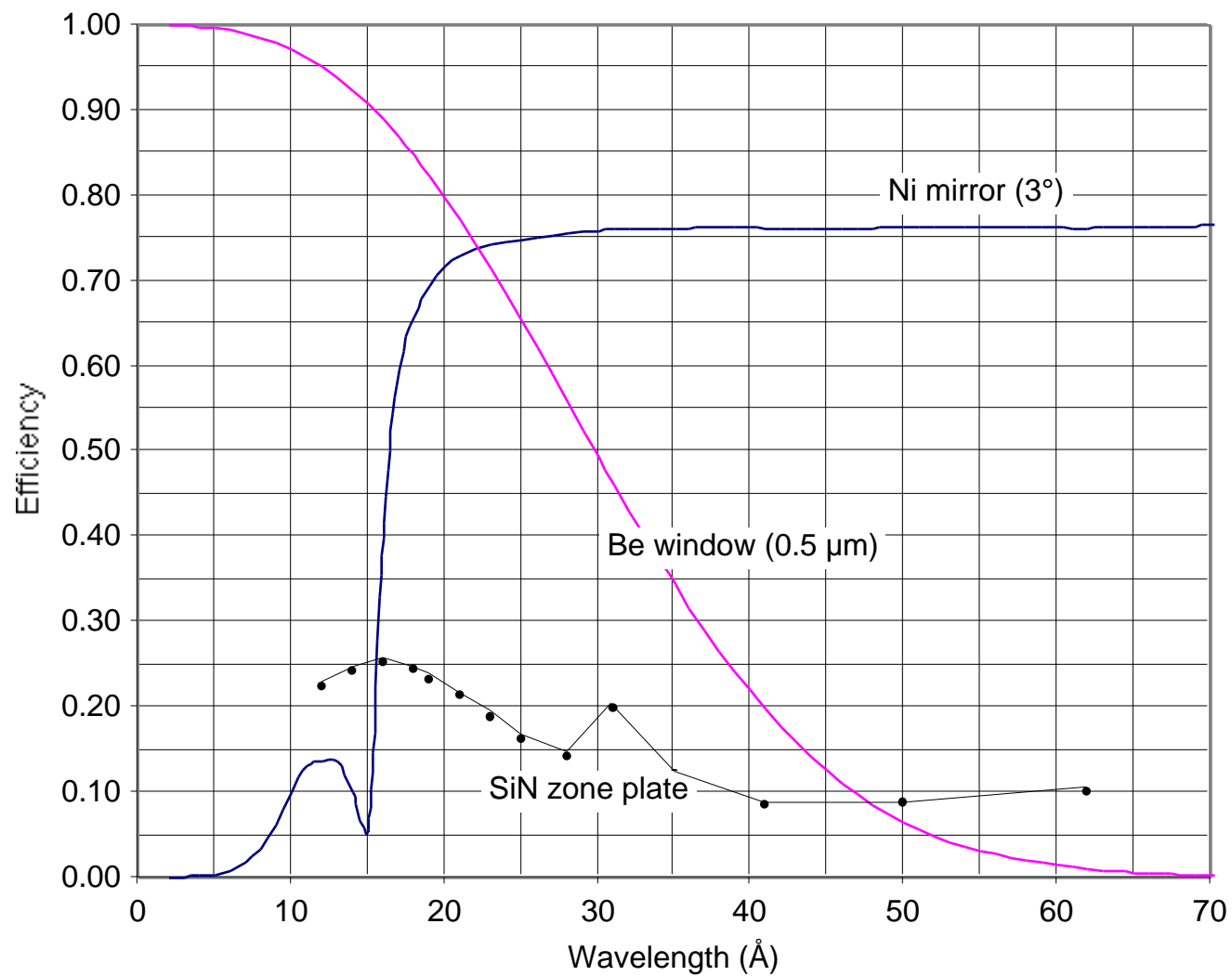


BEAM LINE PLAN VIEW NOT TO SCALE

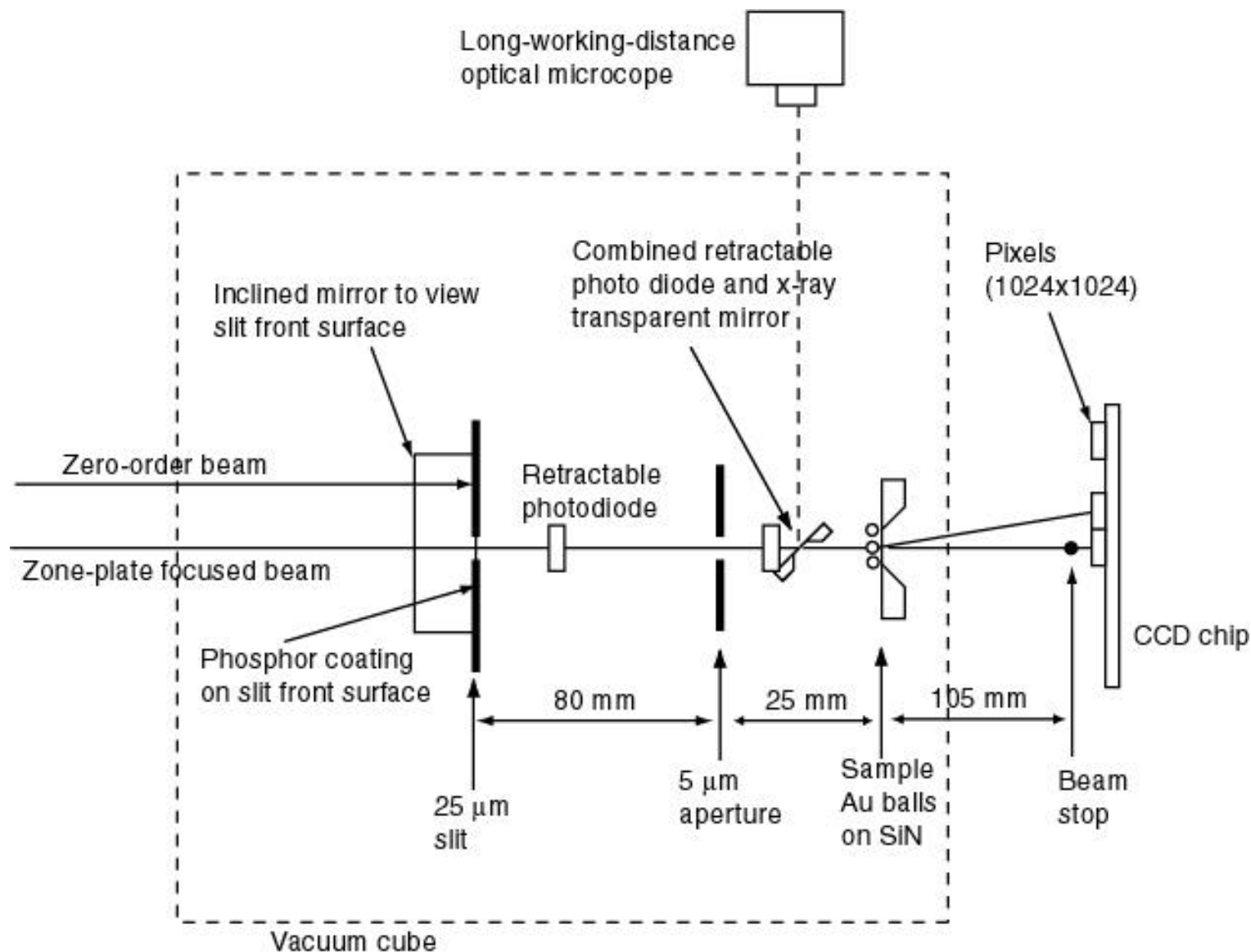
## NOTES:

- Experiments are done at 588 eV in undulator 3rd harmonic
- Be window and zone-plate monochromator both 0.8 mm in size are designed to withstand pink (once reflected) beam
- Diffractive elements of the zone plate mono (Charalambous) made of silicon nitride coated on both sides with aluminium for better mechanical stability and heat removal

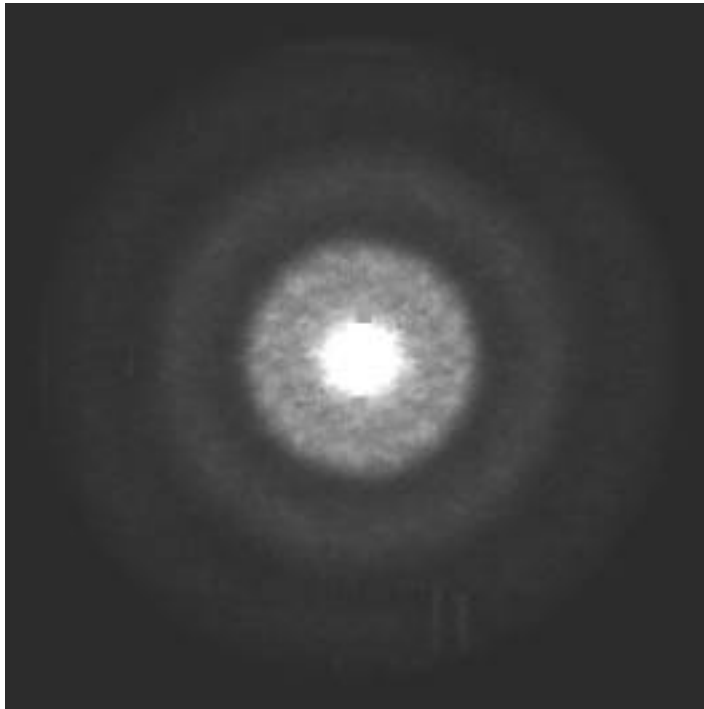
# BEAM LINE EFFICIENCY FACTORS



# SOFT-X-RAY DIFFRACTION EXPERIMENT



# FIRST GOOD DATA ON GOLD-BALL SAMPLE



- 50 nm gold balls, effectively a real object so they give a symmetrical pattern (Friedel's law)
- 500  $\mu\text{m}$  SiN window
- This data has problems:
  - Missing cone in the center
  - Errors due to merging data sets - about 95% obeys Friedel's law - for crystallography data it would be about 99%
  - Object is not isolated (of finite support) which is needed for use of Fienup etc

- Fienup retrieval failed - not sure which "problem" is responsible - missing cone does not cause failures in simulations
- Decided to try reconstruction without knowing the missing cone
- Approaches: (1) direct methods (2) small windows



# APPLICATION OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC DIRECT METHODS TO IMAGING

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Giacovazzo 1989, Wolfson, 1995, 1997, Sayre 1952

## **Basic ideas:**

- Requirements are:
  - atomicity
  - atomic resolution data
  - many measured beams per atom
- Nonrequirements:
  - missing cone no problem,
  - lack of isolation no problem
- We treat the gold balls as atoms
- Treat each detector pixel as a measured beam

## **Outcome:**

- Although we have reconstructed images with R factors as low as 0.22 using the SIR 97 program we do not yet have a reconstruction that we believe in
- This is the first time according to Giacovazzo that direct methods have been used on a non-periodic object and it is considered exciting in the direct-methods community

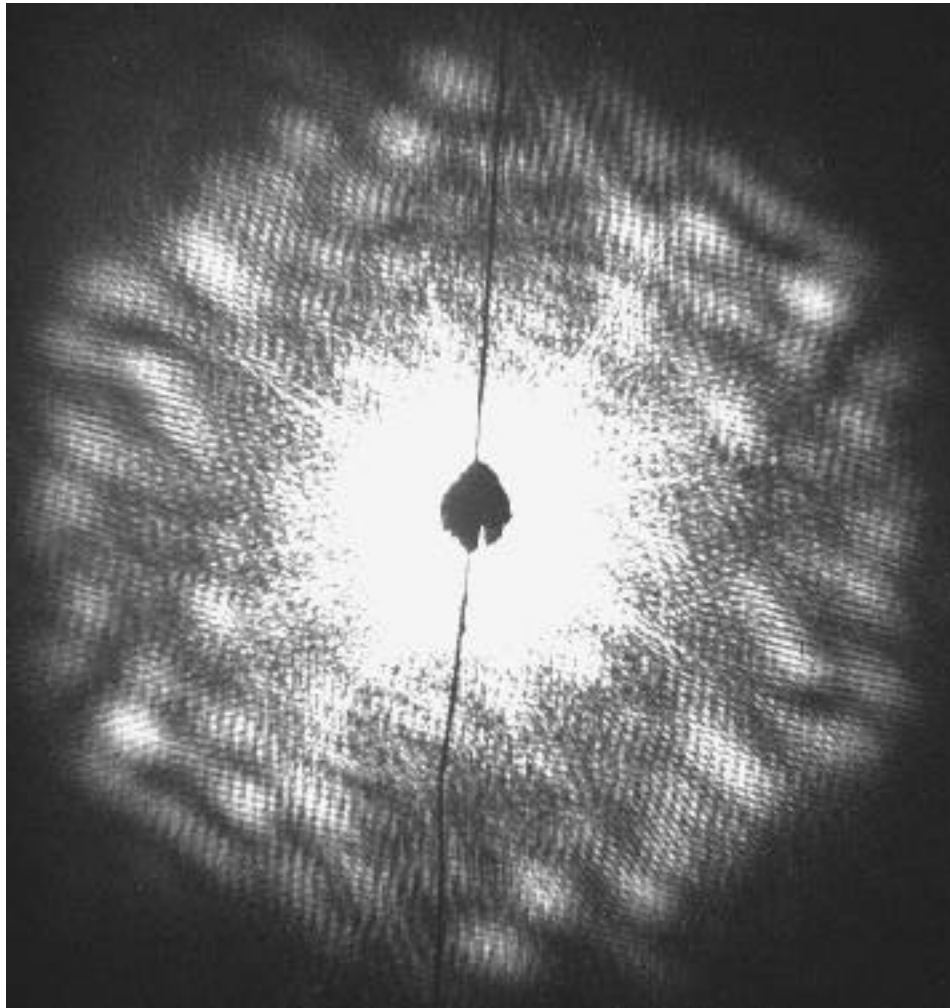
# SMALL WINDOWS



G. Denbeaux

- Small SiN windows of around  $2 \times 2 \mu\text{m}$  have solved many of our problems and within the last month we have acquired much better data
- They reduce the size and strength of the central bright spot
- We have actually taken data with the beam stop removed (no missing cone) but have not yet analyzed it
- They produce much less stray X-ray signal due to edge scattering - the edge is too short to have much scattering power
- Their diffraction pattern is visible outside the beam-stop from which the dimensions of the window can be found.
- They provide sample isolation inside a known and tight support
- Through the window is the only path for stray light in a well-baffled system so stray light is reduced in proportion to window size
- Clarifies the issue of how large an area needs to be coherently illuminated or indeed be illuminated at all

# IMPROVED DATA FROM SMALL-WINDOW SAMPLE

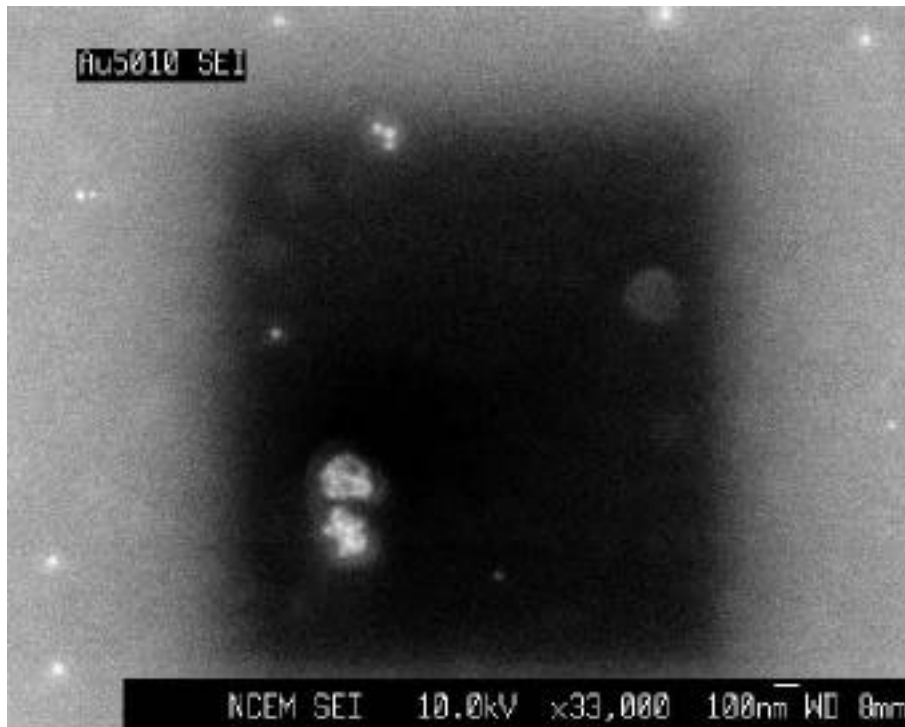


- 30 nm gold balls 588 eV
- $1.77 \times 1.77 \mu\text{m}$  window from window diffraction pattern



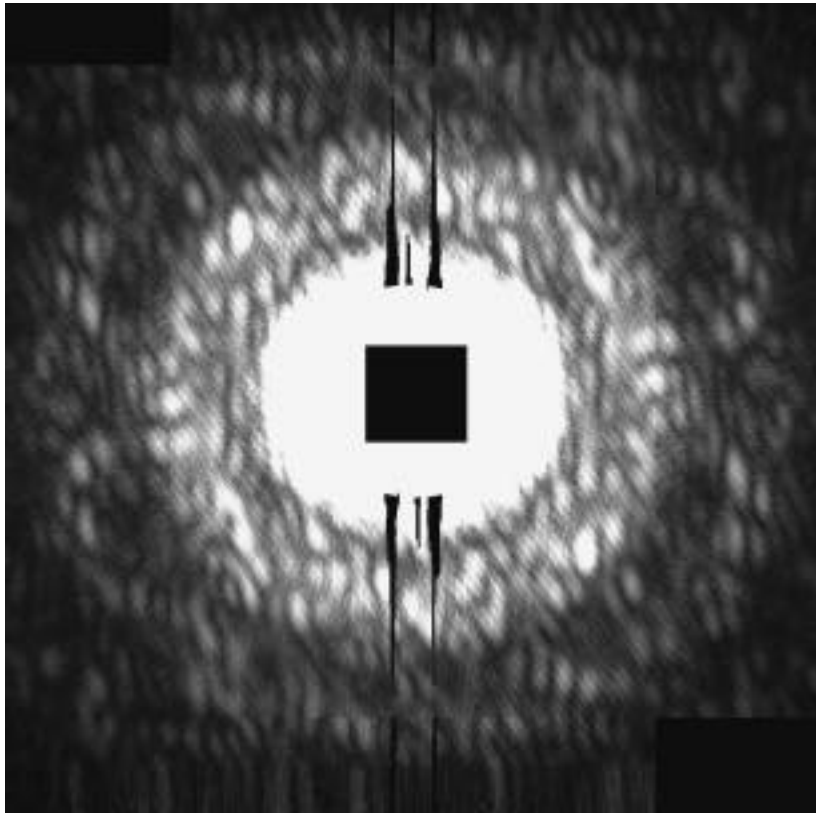
- Smaller beam stop
- No merging of data sets
- Good statistics: sum of many short runs
- No SEM image or reconstruction yet
- Features:
  - fringes - show separated parts and understandable phase encoding
  - Hexagonal shape - 2-D packing of balls
  - Friedel symmetry

# SEM PICTURE OF A GOLD-BALL SAMPLE

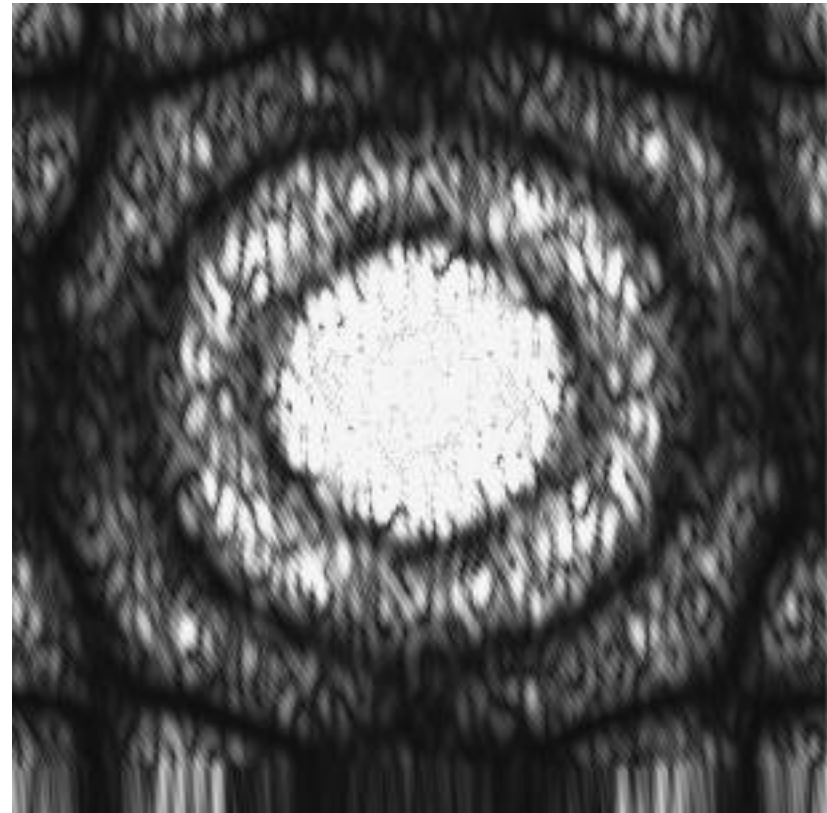


- SEM image of sample that was reconstructed in the last two weeks
- 50 nm gold balls
- “Window”=2x2 micron roughly

# DIFFRACTION PATTERNS

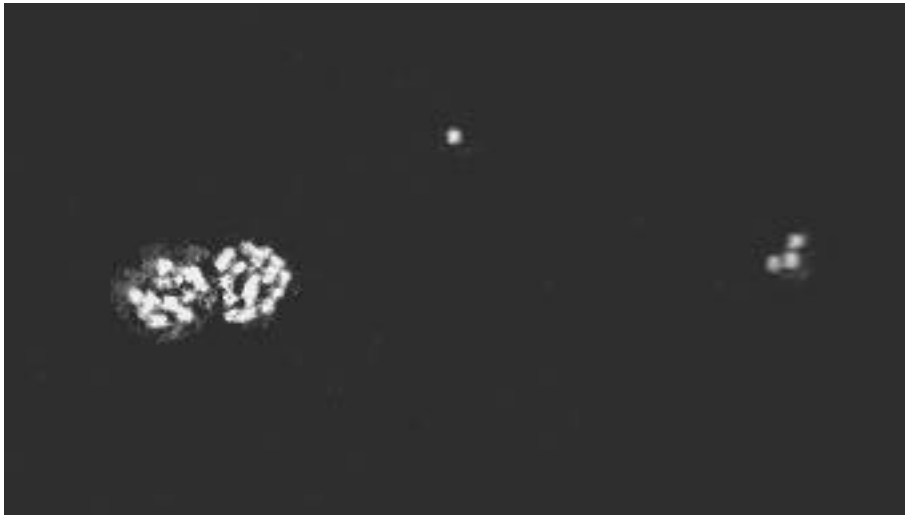


50 nm gold balls, 588eV- measured pattern



Same pattern calculated from the SEM image

# OBJECT RECONSTRUCTION



## HiO reconstruction

Positivity applied to real and imaginary parts of the transparency function

No use of ballicity or binary character or pure gold character

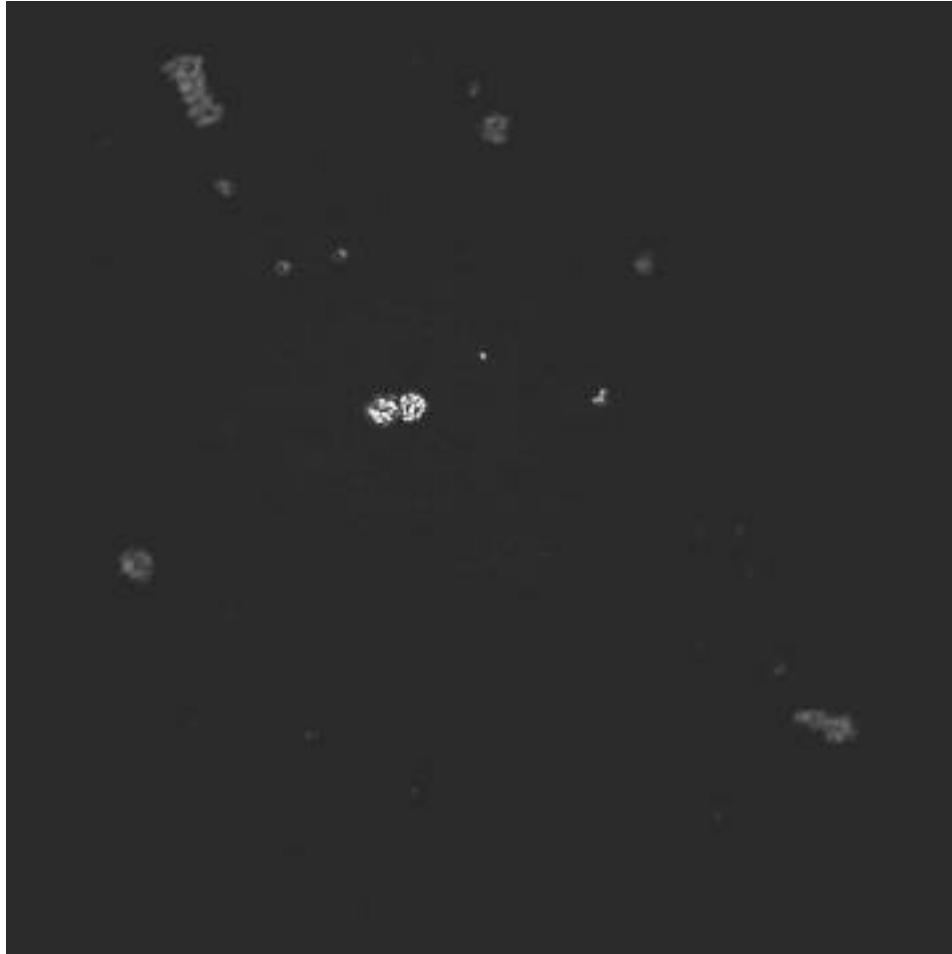
No use of a separate image to find low frequency intensities which were left to self adjust

Support was determined by the SEM image and was a set of 3 circles drawn around each cluster

Zero order self adjusts to the average level needed

Si frame has wedge angle of  $54^\circ$  and  $1/e$  intensity attenuation at 600 eV of 0.6 micron

# RECONSTRUCTION OF A WIDER FIELD



HiO reconstruction of a wider field of view

More balls participate due to partial transparency of the window frame

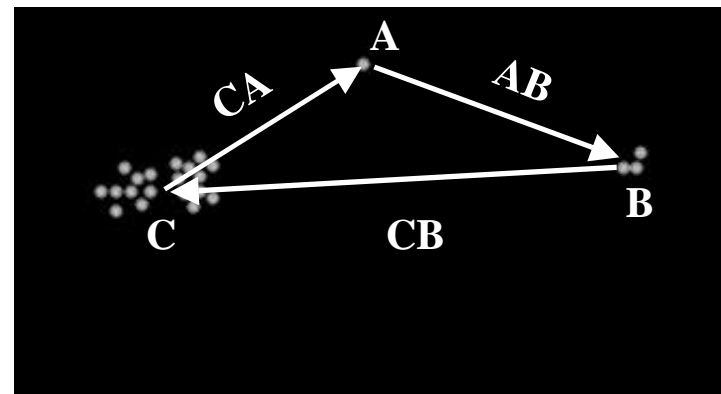
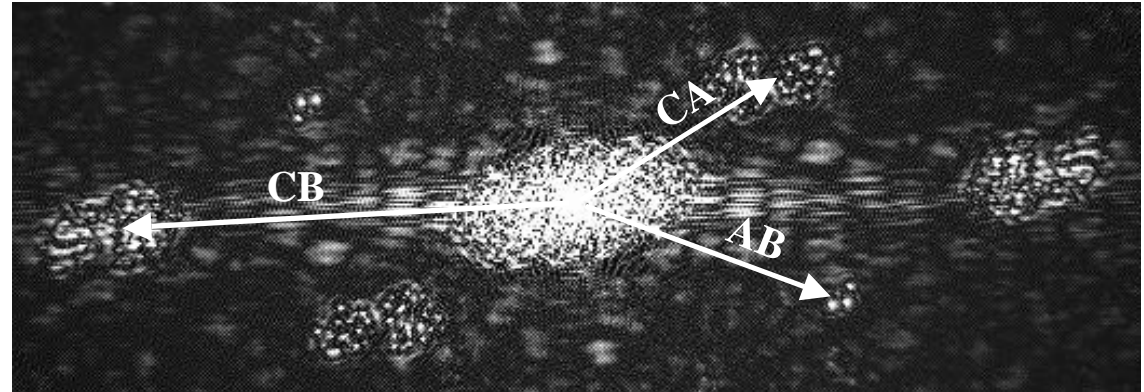
It is appropriate that they should be darker due to absorption in the frame



# OBJECT AUTOCORRELATION FUNCTION



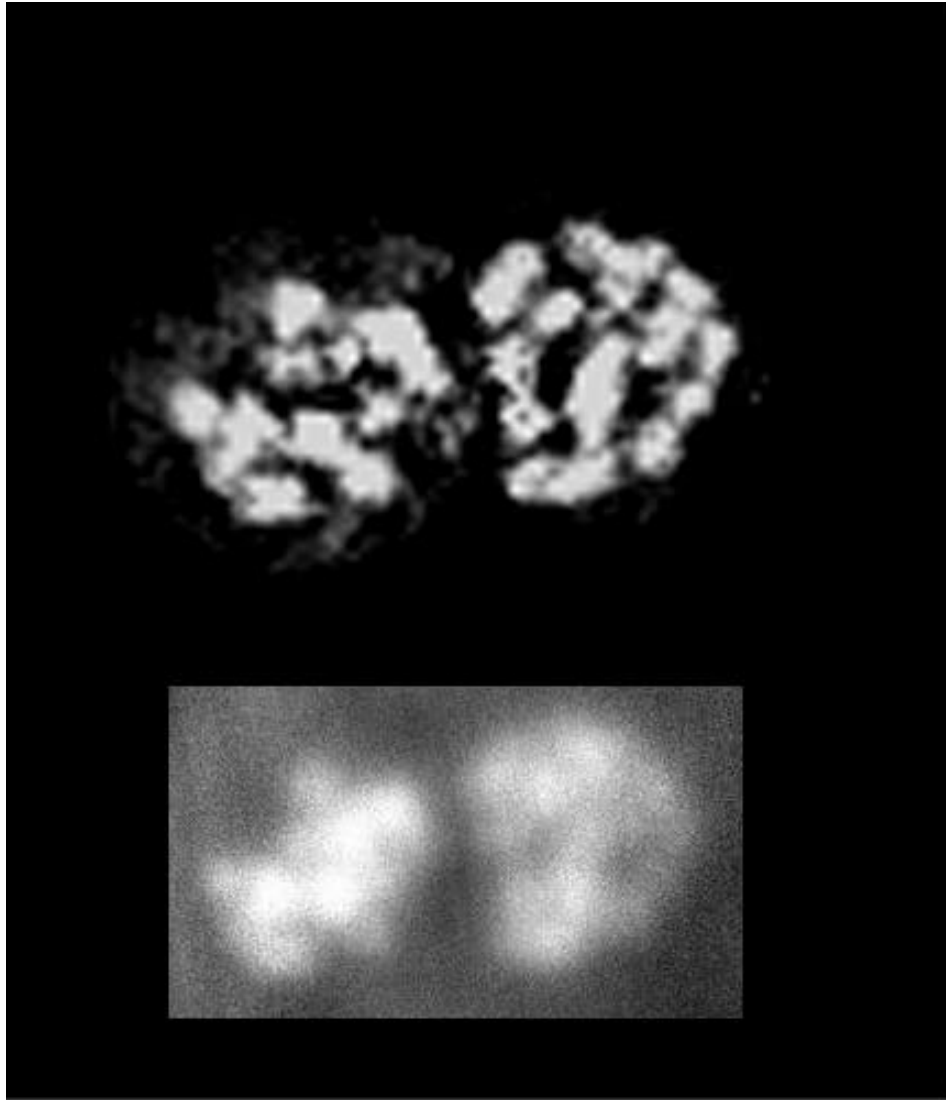
- Autocorrelation of the object found by taking the Fourier transform of the measured diffraction pattern
- Shows the role of separation of parts in determining the support from the autocorrelation
- Since element A is a single ball we see images and twin images of the other two elements formed by Fourier transform holography with a resolution of one ball size (50 nm in this case)



Sketch of the object to explain the features of the autocorrelation



# X-RAY-TO-SEM COMPARISON



- X-ray (top) and SEM (bottom) images of the big cluster of balls (SEM taken last)
- The SEM has lower resolution due to charging (effect of the thin-window mounting)
- For the same reason we believe there was some movement of balls *within* clusters but not of one cluster with respect to another
- Such movements may affect the agreement of the two images which is only qualitative for the moment

# CONCLUSIONS



- **Developed a beam line and end station for simple diffraction experiments**
- **Measured diffraction patterns of test objects made of gold balls**
- **Tried to address the missing-cone problem by**
  - **Direct methods - not yet successful**
  - **Small windows - very successful**
- **Made a successful reconstruction by using a support derived from the SEM image**
- **Demonstrated interesting properties of the autocorrelation function (the FT of the measured pattern) of an object with separated parts**

# APPLICATION OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC DIRECT METHODS TO IMAGING



Giacovazzo 1989, Wolfson, 1995, 1997, Sayre 1952

Basic ideas:

- Particular types of sums of structure factors have quite predictable values, e. g. triplets from zero-sum reciprocal lattice vectors tend to add to zero - follows in part from Sayre's equation and its consequence the "tangent formula"
- The method is embodied in standard computer codes - we have used SIR 97 by Giacovazzo et al
- Requirements are:
  - The object consists of atoms with known scattering factors (atomicity)
  - The data extends to atomic resolution - we can do this because our atoms are gold balls!
  - There must be about 40 beams per atom of which at least 8 must be strong - we can do this too because (in the absence of periodicity to discretize the pattern) we can regard each pixel as a beam - with a  $2\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  window we have a maximum of 1600 50-nm balls and  $1024 \times 1024$  pixels - thus plenty of beams
- For  $\lambda=2.5\text{ nm}$  say and  $25\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  CCD pixels at 100 mm distance, the smallest recordable deviation angle (twice the Bragg angle) is 0.25 mr. This is our  $[1, 0]$  beam in 2D. The largest periodicity is thus  $10\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ . The smallest periodicity (our  $[512, 0]$  beam) corresponds to  $10\text{ }\mu\text{m}/512=20\text{ nm}$  - so resolution limit in this geometry is 10 nm
- Nonrequirements: missing cone no problem, lack of isolation no problem